(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SYEED): (a) and (b) The ever increasing trend of commercial losses of State Power Utilities has been arrested after 2001-02. The commercial losses (without subsidy) in State Electricity Boards have increased from Rs. 4,560 crores during 1992-93 to Rs. 25,259 crores during 2000-01. According to data compiled by Power Finance Corporation, the losses of State Utilities have reduced from 26,596 crores in 2001-02 to Rs. 20,231 crores in 2003-04. Losses as percentage of turnover have started exhibiting a declining trend which is expected to be maintained in coming years.

(c) and (d) The Union Government, in order to help the State Utilities is providing funds to States under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for investment in identified distribution areas for, *inter alia,* reducing technical losses and improving the quality of supply also for incentivising, through grants, reduction of cash losses.

Six States have been provided incentive under APDRP for actual reduction in losses. State-wise details are as under:

Sl. No.	States	Incentive released (Rs. crores)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	265.11
2.	Gujarat	236.38
3.	Haryana	105.49
4.	Maharashtra	137.89
5.	Rajasthan	137.71
6.	West Bengal	73.00
	TOTAL	955.58

Setting up of Thermal Power Projects in **Nagaland**

3668. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by Government to set up of thermal power projects in the State of Nagaland;

(b) the present status of the power project and the details of amount sanctioned for the said project; and

(c) by when the above project will be started?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) A Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) based Diesel Power Plant (22.90 MW) near Dimapur is envisaged to be set up in Nagaland during Tenth Plan. The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region has sanctioned and released Rs. 32.00 crore from Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) during 2003-04 (against the total project cost of Rs. 105.57 crore). The project is currently under hold for want of tie up of remaining funds.

MEGA Power Project Policy

3669. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the Mega Power Project Policy of Government, Thermal Power Projects having a capacity of 1000 MW or more selling power to more than one State are exempted from all customs and other duties levied by Government;

(b) if so, the details of units which have come up under this policy and the exemption that Government has given to such units since the implementation of the Mega Power Project Policy, year-wise; and

(c) the details of Power Projects notified by Government under the Mega Power Project Policy?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) As per the latest amendment to the policy in March, 2003, all inter-State projects which, *inter-alia,* fulfill the basic criteria of minimum threshold capacity of 1000 MW for thermal are eligible for the customs duty waiver subject to meeting conditions laid down in the policy. Lists of projects under implementation by the Central Power Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) and private sector eligible for benefits under the mega policy year-wise are in the Statement-I and II (See below). Under mega policy, the following exemption has been given to mega power project:

(i) The domestic bidders get deemed export benefits as per the EXIM (Export-Import) policy,

(ii) An income tax holiday of 10 years can be claimed by promoter in any block of 10 years within the first 15 years,